


HORSFORTH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health,
AND THE
Sanitary Inspector,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,
1914.

HORSFORTH :
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The Urban District of Horsforth.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1914.

To the Chairman and Councillors.

GENTLEMEN,

The area of the Urban District of Horsforth comprises 2,801 acres. Lying on the North side of the River Aire, it has an elongated tongue-like shape, broader in front than behind. The longest diameter, lying almost North and South, measures about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, the widest diameter, lying almost East and West, being $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length. In elevation there is great variation, the Southern boundary being about 120 feet above the sea level, whilst the Northern boundary is situated at an altitude of about 700 feet.

Most of the boundaries are formed by streams, the River Aire between Cow Beck and Red Beck forming the Southern portion.

As the sub-soil of the district is usually of an impervious nature, it will be easily seen that the whole district is readily cleansed after a heavy rainfall, the gradients on all sides assisting. These natural advantages are of great importance, and no doubt the healthy reputation which this district has enjoyed for many years past is in a great measure due to this fact.

Bounded on the North and North-East by districts belonging to the Wharfedale Rural area, on the South-East by the Borough of Leeds, it has lying on the South West and West the districts of Calverley and Rawdon respectively.

The country is well wooded and beautiful walks are readily accessible to any part of its population. It is well served by railways (Midland and North-Eastern), and it is linked up to Leeds by tramways—an extension of which now reaches into Wharfedale.

There is a local Golf Club within 10 minutes of the tramways, which is now one of the most important in the neighbourhood of Leeds.

Within the district lie the Springfield Convalescent Home, the Dean Head Sanatorium, whilst adjacent and overlooking it are the two semi-convalescent homes of the Leeds General Infirmary, viz., the Ida and the Arthington Hospitals, whilst also close to these is the Cookridge Convalescent Home.

Light and power are supplied by the Yorkshire Electrical Distribution Company. Gas is supplied by a private company. Many of the streets are now lighted electrically.

The population in 1911 was 9,145; estimate for the present year, 9,510. It includes (1) Agricultural, (2) Industrial, and (3) Residential.

(1).—The farm buildings are small, and chiefly dairy in character.

(2).—The industries include, amongst others, dyeing, weaving, spinning, bleaching, and tanning. There is a large laundry, and just beyond the area of the district there are several important ironworks. Stone is common to the district, but there are less employed in this trade now than in former years.

(3).—In the Residential Class I include those who work outside the district. This is by far the largest section of the community. Most of the houses built of late years have been for this part of the population, the houses from £17 to £20 being most in request.

Trade throughout the year has been unusually good, and there has in consequence been a tendency for wages to rise. Since the momentous Declaration of War against Germany in early August, most of the manufacturers have been working overtime in order to assist in the national

demand of equipment. An important exception was the Newlay Branch of the Bradford Dyers' Association. In this case short time has been the rule, and for several weeks there was complete stoppage of work.

Consequently very little distress has prevailed, and that which would have occurred amongst the dyers was largely mitigated by allowances advanced to the men, arranged conjointly by the Employers and the Workers' Trades Union.

Nevertheless, a considerable sum of money was subscribed to form a Distress Committee Fund, called at the instance of the Chairman of the Council. At the outset the funds collected were allotted to dependents, chiefly by way of assisting the ordinary War Office allowance. In course of time, however, when the dependents' rate of pay was improved, the scope of the Fund was enlarged to include any case of general distress brought about by the circumstances of War.

In common with most places Horsforth received very readily its quota of Belgian Refugees. Assisted by a strong committee inspired by a Belgian lady (who has lived in Horsforth for many years), several houses were quickly furnished and the visitors made as comfortable as it was possible. Subscriptions came in very quickly, and there is no doubt that this good work will receive the sympathetic support that it requires, until the appropriate time comes for their return home. 73 refugees are being provided for.

The amount of Poor Law Relief granted during the year was £401 9s. 10d.

The thanks of the inhabitants of the district are again due to the Medical Charitable Institutions of our neighbouring cities—notably the General Infirmary and the Women and Children's Hospital at Leeds, both institutions being ever ready to treat our serious cases.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.—THE WATER SUPPLY is in the hands of the Urban District Authority. The gathering ground is situated partly within the area and partly in the adjoining district of Rawdon. The catchment area is scarcely sufficient to supply the needs

of the population ; this has therefore been augmented by a Borehole supply (in Scotland Lane), the effluent of which empties direct into the Middle Reservoir. There are three reservoirs altogether—the upper capable of holding 8,000,000 gallons, a middle, much the larger, to hold 27,000,000 gallons, and a lower to hold compensation water. New sand has been used for the replenishing of the filter recently, several streams on the gathering grounds have been tiled or half tiled, and since cattle are now kept from the main portion of the area, viz., that occupied by the Golf Club, the whole has a well kept and tidy appearance. Several analyses of the water have been taken by the County Analyst, whose reports have been invariably favourable. No serious complaints regarding shortage of supply have been made, though occasionally it is a fact that the supply is temporarily deficient in the higher portions of the township.

There are two other small sources of supply, viz., the Town's Well in Parkside and a private well supplying several houses in Woodside Hill. The former was unprotected, as mentioned in my last year's report. This has now been covered in, as recommended, a pump being supplied. The latter well was the subject of comment on several occasions. When last the matter was before the Sanitary Committee I stated that I considered the site undesirable, and that I thought the houses supplied should have the advantages of a public supply. In addition, the analyses of water, although not condemnatory, suggested the possibility of sewage pollution. An iron pipe leading to this well was substituted for a lead one, as previously a user of the water had been discovered to be affected with lead poisoning.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The Sewage Works constructed in 1911 are very efficient, being kept in good order by the committee in charge. The district of Newlay, which up to the present has discharged its sewage direct into the River Aire is now being sewered and connected up to the Sewage Works. A pump is to be erected, which will then permit the sewage to be dealt with in the ordinary way.

In my last year's report I mentioned the Local Government Board's enquiry into a request for a loan for the purpose of providing a destructor. This scheme has now

been completed with entire satisfaction, the building occupying spare land on the sewage works adjacent to the pump room for the Newlay sewage. From a sanitary point of view this is an important advance, and no longer will the customary justifiable complaints be made from those annoyed by the various tips, which from time to time have been in use.

Closet Accommodation.—The approximate numbers regarding closet accommodation are 217 privies, to 1,330 water closets.

Every year the proportion becomes greater. The number of privies reconstructed during the past year into water closets was 29. Eight additional water closets were provided for old property during the year.

Scavenging is done by a contractor at a cost of £400 per annum. Certain difficulties occurred during the last quarter of the year because of scarcity of labour, etc., but on the whole this work was well done. I think the new destructor should facilitate this work, for the disposal of refuse has been a difficult matter during the past few years.

Nuisance Inspections.—The number of inspections made during the year numbered 1,182. The total number of nuisances reported was 412. Further details are to be found in the Sanitary Inspector's Report (appended).

The regulated buildings controlled by the Bye-laws are two, viz., a knacker's yard and one soap works. Special action was not required in either case.

The Schools number 5. The sanitary arrangements of these are good. Various inspections were made. In the case of the Featherbank Lane School, in the junior section, all scholars were examined individually, and several swabs from the throat taken during an outbreak of diphtheria in February.

Curiously the only swab returned as positive was that of a healthy looking boy, a member of a large family of children. This case was kept away from school and watched carefully. He was not ill and there was no further trouble in his family. In February the Infants' School in Broadgate Lane was closed for measles for two weeks.

Milk Supply.—The number of cowkeepers is 36. They are all registered.

There are 13 milk sellers, who are also cowkeepers, and there are five ordinary purveyors of milk. These are all registered. The approximate number of cows is 420. There were no proceedings taken under the D.C.M. Orders.

In the early part of the year a Veterinary Inspector was appointed and a thorough inspection of all dairy cows was made. Three suspicious cases of tubercle were tested, but only one turned out positive. The result was evidently very satisfactory, and indicates the high standard of the dairy cattle in the district.

Two other cows were later in the year found to be suffering from Tubercle, the diagnosis being verified by post mortem. The carcasses were destroyed.

Other Foods.—No prosecutions were taken out under this heading. There were two seizures of unsound food. In one case a carcass of meat was condemned after a pronouncement by the Veterinary Inspector.

The Slaughter-Houses number 13—of these 7 are registered; they are generally in good condition.

It has been found that the disposal of offals is not always satisfactory. Now that a Destructor is provided this should not be difficult, and I hope the matter will have the necessary attention during the coming summer.

Under the question of food I think it is opportune here to mention and emphasize the importance of two circulars issued by order of the Sanitary Committee:—

The first related to flies, and showed how these were capable of transmitting poison from ashpits and other objectionable places to food in the larder. The advice given, in an attractive form, was to not only kill the flies but to destroy their breeding places. This can only be done by active co-operation of all householders, and I hope sincerely that progress in this direction will be forthcoming during the coming year. The cleansing of streets, the frequent emptying of ashpits, the removal of refuse—particularly that from slaughter-houses, fish shops, greengrocers' and stable yards—will all help, and although instructions have been given by

the Council for all these things to be done I am afraid there is still some room for improvement.

The other circular to which I wish to refer is that relating to food supplies, issued soon after the outbreak of war. The special feature pointed out the relative values of certain food and shows up the fallacy that expensive food was necessarily the best from a dietetic point of view. Attention was also drawn to the fact that there was generally a great wastage of food, that most people ate far more than was necessary, and that the physical state of those people was made worse by the surplus. It was also pointed out that it was a patriotic duty for all people to take due regard towards the conservation of the food supply.†

Housing.—The Inspector appointed is the Sanitary Inspector, the details being tabulated by him in Table C at the end of this Report. Eight houses in Gaunt's Fold were dealt with drastically under this Act. The roadway of the Fold was also tar-macadammed. This property, abutting as it does on to the main street of the town, is no longer the eyesore that it was, and the health conditions for the inhabitants must be greatly improved. The road and surroundings in Paradise Place were also vastly improved by alterations effected, but I regret that the major portion of the work was not rendered impermeable, as by asphalt—all work of this class should be so completed if at all possible.

Two cases of overcrowding were dealt with. I need scarcely say work of this nature is very difficult to handle just now because of the great shortage of houses, for I regret to state that the difficulties of this question do not come any nearer a solution. Sixteen new houses were granted completion certificates, but this number represents only about one-quarter of the normal for late years. In previous Reports I have mentioned this difficulty; it continues, and any empty house, whatever its condition, is speedily taken, and rents, in consequence of the great demand, have risen generally. At the present moment I cannot bring to mind a house "to let" in the whole of the District, except one or two larger houses which have been empty for some several years. New bye-laws have lately been passed regulating the building of houses.

Workshops, etc., number 44. These have been inspected in the usual way by your Sanitary Official, 112 inspections being made. Unsuitable and defective sanitary accommodation was found and remedied in two cases. The general state regarding cleanliness is fairly good. They include:—

Bakehouses ...	15	Hosiery ...	1
(4 underground)		Milliners ...	4
Bootmakers...	5	Saddlers ...	2
Cabinet Makers	2	Tailor ...	1
Dressmakers ...	9	Tinners ...	2
Joiners ...	3		

A case of Scarlet Fever occurred in the house of an outworker. This is the first case to my knowledge that outwork was being done in the District. The class of work engaged in was "twirling," and it was found that five employees were engaged by this particular firm. The obligation to notify such outworkers to the Sanitary Authorities was impressed upon the employer.

Sanitary Administration of District.

Infectious Diseases. — Cases of Infectious Diseases are shown in Table II.

Scarlet Fever was again more prevalent than usual. In all 31 cases occurred; 23 of these were treated in the Isolation Hospital. In January there were 4 cases; March, 3; June, 1; July, 2; August, 3; October, 6; November, 9; December, 3. 29 houses were involved.

Most of the cases were mild in type, and were spread over the various parts of the District. No deaths occurred. The principal focus of trouble in October and November was in the Lane Head area, but there were several importations of the disease altogether, and at no time was the epidemic of a serious nature. In all cases bedding, etc., was sent to the Isolation Hospital Disinfectors, and the houses were disinfected by formalin.

Diphtheria. — 21 cases occurred: — In January 2; February, 6; March, 1; April, 1; May, 1; June, 1; August 3; September, 2; October, 2; December, 2. 17 houses were involved.

The first cases occurred amongst children attending Featherbank Lane Council School. It seemed likely, therefore, that a common source might here be found. I examined the various classes and took swabs from several throats where there had been a history of illness, and in those cases where the throat showed any abnormality. The further result of this inspection is mentioned under the heading of "Schools."

For some years now the Diphtheria cases occurring in this District have been usually single ones, often breaking out in the same locality as a previous case, say a year or two before; apparently they are not highly infectious, for it is a rarity to have more than two or three cases together. To my mind it is suggested that some contamination persists which again, after remaining dormant for some time, develops under favourable conditions for the germ life. If this is so nothing but a closer attention to sanitary details will eradicate the disease, and a great aid to this will be the rendering of ground, where children play about their homes, more suitable for such by making it of impermeable materials, such as asphalt or concrete.

Six cases were treated in the Isolation Hospital. The houses affected were disinfected by formalin (spray and vapour).

Tuberculosis.—16 of pulmonary and 5 of other forms were notified. Ten of the former class were treated in the Sanatoria of the West Riding. Most of those affected belong to well-known tubercular families. There were 10 deaths from pulmonary and one from tubercular meningitis amongst the deaths registered, but of these 6 were of inmates in the Dean Head Sanatorium, so that 5 only belonged to the inhabitants of the district.

Disinfection of premises after death is always carried out by the Sanitary Inspector, and sputum bottles are supplied to any sufferer on application.

Vital Statistics.—These are given in detail in Table I. I estimate the population to be about the same as that for last year, the enlistments numbering in December 350 counterbalancing the normal natural increase.

The birth-rate resulting from 172 births (94 males, 78 females), is 18.4 per 1,000; this is slightly in excess of the similar rate for 1913, but is still in line with the general decrease which has been going on throughout the United Kingdom during the past 20 years. Those who have carefully studied the question having the national welfare at heart, have pointed out with grave misgivings the ultimate effect of this tendency. The present war makes us realise at once what an important national factor this is. It is sincerely to be hoped that the duration of the war will be a short one, and that in the course of time the dwindling birth-rate will again assume normal and natural proportions. The birth-rate for England and Wales for 1914 was 23.8.

The Infant Notification Act.—This Act was adopted by the Sanitary Authority before the West Riding scheme was arranged. The District Nurses belonging to the Horsforth District Nursing Association visit all the houses where babies are born. If the little one is healthy there is no further visiting, if not more visits are paid until the anxiety of the mother is relieved—the Nurses giving general instructions and weighing the baby if necessary. The work is now very popular with all classes.

Fifteen infants died before reaching the age of 12 months, the infant mortality death rate being 57 per 1,000 children born alive. For causes of death see Table V.

The deaths registered were 87 in number (43 males, 44 females), the resulting death-rate being 9.3 per 1000: this is extremely low, and is equal to the record of 1910 (see Table I.)

Fifteen residents died outside the area, and eight visitors died within the area. The nett death-rate, taking these into account, is 10.3. The similar death rate for England and Wales during the same period was 14.0 per 1000.

The causes of death are set forth in Table II.

Regarding these the most notable feature is that the so called minor diseases, viz., Measles and Whooping Cough, account for 5 deaths, whilst Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria account only for 1, in spite of the fact that both these diseases were more prevalent than usual.

The moral of this should be an extension of that care exercised in the case of the so-called serious diseases to those of a milder but more prevalent character. Besides the sequelae of these infectious diseases are often serious, and should demand equal attention.

I regret very much the different view taken by the West Riding County Council in the matter of these diseases in regard to the School attendance of children from infected houses. I strongly disapprove of children, whose brothers or sisters are suffering from these diseases, being allowed at school with anything less than the precautions taken for the graver disease.

Gentlemen, before closing my report may I make a special point of the necessity of a strong vigilance in Sanitary matters during the coming year? War always carries disease in its track, and the return of men from infected areas may make it possible that trouble such as we have not known for years, from a public health point of view, may be our lot. It behoves us, therefore, "to get the house in order," and this can best be done by giving our ordinary routine of cleansing and scavenging the best attention. Particularly I would suggest more street gully cleansing, and the exercise of more care in this regard over private streets and places.

During the period of war it is possible that less constructive work in Sanitary matters will be done, but it is extremely necessary that all efforts, both of those responsible as the Sanitary Authority and the public generally, should co-operate for the common good.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

HENRY BAILEY.



TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous years.

Year.	Births.—Nett.		Total Deaths Regsd. in Dist.		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to Dist.				
	Number.	Rate.	Number	Rate.	Of Non- residents regd. in District.	Of Res- idents not regd. in district.	Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	At all ages, Number.	Rate.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1904	8050	177	21.9	99	12.1		9	15	84	110	13.6
1905	8100	190	23.4	81	10		14	14	73	95	11.7
1906	8880	186	22.1	88	10.5		7	20	107	95	11.3
1907	8660	198	22.8	73	8.4		14	14	70	87	10.1
1908	8992	208	23.1	96	10.6		8	17	81	104	11.5
1909	9172	173	19	93	10.1		14	9	52	107	11.6
1910	9292	194	20.8	87	9.3	2	3	10	51	89	9.5
1911	9273	175	18.9	103	11.1	1	12	15	85	114	12.2
1912	9390	168	18.2	111	11.8	1	13	12	70	123	13.0
1913	9510	171	17.9	91	9.5	4	12	16	93	99	10.4
Averages for years 1904-1913											
1914	9510	177	18.5	89	9.3	2	17	15	87	98	10.3

*Rates in Columns 4, 6, 10, and 12 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.

Notifiable Diseases	At all years.	Under 1 year	1 to 5 years.	5 to 15 years.	15 to 25 years.	25 to 45 years.	45 to 65 years.	65 and upwards.
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup	21	—	3	15	1	2	—	—
Erysipelas ...	8	1	—	1	1	3	3	—
Scarlet Fever ...	31	—	1	21	9	—	—	—
Ophthalmia								
Neonatorum ...	3	3	—	2	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary								
Tuberculosis ...	16	—	—	2	4	10	—	—
Other forms of								
Tuberculosis ...	5	—	—	1	2	2	—	—
Totals ...	84	3	4	40	17	17	3	—

TABLE III.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1914.

Causes of Death	All Ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 yrs.	2 and under 5 yrs.	5 and under 15 yrs.	15 and under 25 yrs.	25 and under 45 yrs.	45 and under 65 yrs.	65 and upwards.
Measles ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria and Croup	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Influenza ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ...	10	—	—	—	1	4	4	1	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	7
Organic Heart Disease ...	15	—	—	—	—	3	1	3	8
Bronchitis ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	4	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Other Defined Diseases ...	30	3	—	—	—	—	2	9	16
Totals ...	98	15	3	3	3	7	11	21	35

TABLE IV.

Infant Mortality during the year 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 wk.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Tot. Deaths under 1 yr.
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gastritis ...	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2
Injury at Birth ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Malformations (c) ...	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	3
Premature Birth ...	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Other Causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2
Totals ...	3	1	2	—	6	4	2	3	—	15

TABLE C. 1914.

Horsforth Urban Sanitary District.

WATER SUPPLY.—

Any developments during 1914 ? No.

Any insufficiency, and where ? No

Any curtailment ? No.

Did any wells fail, and where ? No.

Any unsatisfactory quality, and where ? No.

Any unchecked plumbo-solvent action ? No.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—

Any developments during 1914 ? The sewerage of the Newlay area proceeding.

Developments still needed as to (a) Want of sewers ? None. (b) Improvement of defective sewers ? None.

Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells ? No.

No. of sink-wastes disconnected during 1914 ? Three. Trapped ? Two.

Proportion of sink-wastes still needing disconnection ? None known. Untrapped ? None known.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privies with open middens ? 51. No. of Pail or Tub Closets ? 10.

No. of Privies with covered middens ? 156. No. of Water Closets ? 1312. Waste Water Closets ? 19.

Are proper doors and coverings generally provided?
Yes.

No. of Privies reconstructed during 1914 (a) as w. c.'s?
29. (b) other? None.

No. of *additional* Closets provided for old property in
1914 (a) w.c.'s? 8. (b) other? None.

No. of Closets constructed in 1914 for new houses (a)
w.c.'s? 17. (b) other? None.

SCAVENGING.—

How is refuse disposed of (a) Destructor? Yes. (c)
Farmers? Nightsoil. Total annual cost? £400 (collection).

Is there any inadequacy, and where? No.

Any change during 1914? Refuse Destructor installed.

NUISANCE INSPECTIONS.—

Total No. of inspections made in 1914? 1182.

Informal Notices served? 66. Complied with? 58.

Statutory Notices served? 26. Complied with? 16.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1913? 18.
At close of 1914? 12.

Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1914? 412.
Abated during 1914? 418.

Total No. of Summonses or other legal proceedings?
None.

REGULATED BUILDINGS, TRADES, &c.	No. in Dis- trict.	No. on Reg- ister.	Total No. of Inspections made.	General Condition?	Legal Pro- ceedings (if any).
Common Lodging Houses—					
Canal Boats					
Knacker's Yard	1	1	42	Good.	
Offensive Trades	1	1	8	Good.	
Soap Works					

Have the Council declared any other processes to be
offensive trades, e.g., Fish-frying, Maggot-breeding, etc.?
No,

SCHOOLS.—

No. of Elementary Schools in District ? Five.

No. of visits to schools ? Five.

Action taken ? Broadgate Lane School closed for Measles for 16 days.

MILK SUPPLY.—

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts ? None.

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for bacteriological examination ? None.

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of dairy cows ? All been examined (see Veterinary Surgeon's report).

No. of animals notified by Police during 1914 under Tuberculosis Order, 1913 ? None to us.

Any action thereon by S.A., *e.g.*, to ascertain if cowsheds affected were satisfactory ? No.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1914 ? No.

No. of Cowkeepers in district ? 36. No. registered ? 36.

No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers ? 13. No. who are Purveyors only ? 5. Total No. registered ? 18.

Total No. of Cowsheds ? 43. No. of Inspections in 1914 ? 238. General condition ? Fairly good.

Approximate No. of Milch Cows in district ? 420. Any insufficiency in Milk Supply ? No.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders ? None.

Any Inspection or other action by districts to which Milk is sent ? No.

OTHER FOODS.

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer or S.A. for examination under the Food and Drugs Acts ? None.

No. of seizures of unsound food ? 2. Kind and quantity ? One Carcase of Beef and one Tin of Fruit. No. of Prosecutions ? None.

No. of Slaughter Houses ? 13. No. registered ? 7.
Kind and condition ? In most cases satisfactory.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Any Smoke Nuisance, and where ? Woodside Dye-works kept under observation.

No. of Smoke observations taken ? 12. No. of Cautions ? 1.

ADOPTIVE ACTS.

Acts adopted during 1914 ? None.

BYELAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Any adopted during 1914 ? New Building Byelaws (copy attached).

Are any other Byelaws needed ? No.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1914 ? Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

What special action to combat same ? Extra sanitary supervision.

Is Hospital accommodation adequate and sufficient ? Yes, these having been increased during the past year.

What arrangement for the supply of antitoxin ? This can be had on application to the M.O.H. for suitable cases.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable list ? No.

Any influences threatening the health of the district ? No.

SPECIAL REPORTS AND INVESTIGATIONS.—

A Report upon Epidemic of Measles in February.

TUBERCULOSIS.—

(1) Inspection of patient's home and workshop? Yes.
 (2) Examination for contacts? No. (3) Disinfection? Yes.
 (4) Distribution of advice leaflets? Not during the past year.
 (5) Action *re* spitting? None. (6) Shelters provided? Yes, two by W.R.C.C. (7) Is sputum examined? By W.R.C.C.

BACTERIOLOGY.

Is County Laboratory utilized? Yes.

INFANT MORTALITY.

What organised effort to control it? The District Nurses assist M.O.H. in supervision.

Any Baby Clinic, Baby's Welcome, or Mother's League? Yes, the District Nursing Association.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1914? None.

VITAL STATISTICS.—

Births during 1914? Males, 94; Females, 78; Total, 172.

No. of illegitimate included in above? 3. No. of Still Births (not included)? None.

Deaths during 1914? (1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, Total actually registered in the district *without any correction*, 98.
 (2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated (Males and Females), 89.

MISCELLANEOUS.—

Rainfall? 31.29 inches.

What Mortuary accommodation? (a) For accidents—For 2 bodies. (b) For infectious cases other than at Hospital—None.

No. of Burial Grounds? 5.

Are there any ill-placed fowl-runs in district? Yes; one near the private well in Woodside Hill.

Any nuisance therefrom or action in relation thereto? None.

SANITARY STAFF.—

Name of Sanitary Inspector? LUTHER GRIMSHAW.

Annual Salary as Inspector? £125.

Other appointments held? Sanitary and Housing Inspector.

Any Assistants? No.

Is Staff sufficient? No.

SUPPLEMENTARY REMARKS as to Sanitary requirements of district, suggestions of M.O.H., and extended notes from any of the foregoing entries.—

1914. Completion Certificates for new houses numbered 16.

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WORK DURING 1914.—

Houses inspected under the Act and Regulations? 66.

Houses found satisfactory on Inspection? 4.

Houses found with defects (under Section 15)? 36.

Houses for which notices were given (under Section 15)? 16.

Houses in respect of which notices were complied with (under Section 15)? 16.

Houses found with defects (under Public Health Acts)? 26.

Houses made fit after preliminary notices under Public Health Acts? 8.

Houses in regard to which notices were served to remedy defects under Public Health Acts? 8.

Houses with defects (under Section 15) undisposed of at end of 1914? 20.

Houses with minor defects under Public Health Acts undisposed of at end of 1914? 10.

Name and address of Officer designated to make inspections under Article II, of Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910? LUTHER GRIMSHAW, Council Offices, Horsforth.

Any regulations made in respect of underground sleeping rooms under Section 17 (7)? No. Any action in respect of such rooms? No such rooms now existing.

OTHER ACTION IN REGARD TO HOUSING.—

Any scarcity of houses, if so, where? Yes; everywhere throughout the district.

Any overcrowding of persons in houses, and where? There is some, but the above renders this a difficult matter to deal with.

No. of cases of overcrowding dealt with during 1914? 2 cases.

Any special activity in house building, and where? No.

Number of new houses built during 1914—working-class dwellings? 14

Any working class dwellings erected during 1914 by Sanitary Authority? No.

Are Sanitary Authority contemplating erection of working-class dwellings? No.

TOWN PLANNING.—

Any scheme prepared during 1914? No.

Any scheme contemplated? No.

Report of the Sanitary Inspector,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1914.

Council Offices,

Horsforth,

March, 1915.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Horsforth Urban
District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my **Annual Report** for the year 1914, showing the action taken and the work done in connection with the abatement of nuisances, etc.

During the period 1,182 inspections have been made, and the procedure adopted has been on similar lines to that of previous years.

As a result of the 1,182 inspections made, 120 letters were written, 66 informal notices were served, and 26 statutory notices.

The Number of Nuisances detected during the year was	412
" " outstanding Dec. 31, 1913	18
" " abated during 1914	418
" " unabated Dec. 31, 1914	12

Sewerage and Drainage.

Since the sewer from the Rawdon boundary to Calverley Lane was laid, the difficulty of dealing with the sewage from property in that locality has been overcome, the then existing sumps have been abolished, and the drains connected to the new sewer.

The sewerage of the Newlay area is now proceeding, and when the scheme is completed the sewage from this district will be treated at the sewage works, instead of discharging direct into the River Aire without treatment, as it has done in the past.

On 12 occasions drains in connection with occupied houses have been found, by means of applying volatile tests, to be in a defective state—in five cases to such an extent that it was necessary to re-lay the whole system. In the remaining seven cases the defects were not to the same extent and were remedied forthwith.

Three sink wastes were disconnected from the drains, and one trapped.

Fifteen fall-pipes have also been disconnected, two house drains disconnected from sewer, and eight drains provided with ventilating shafts.

All drains for new property and drains that are re-laid are inspected while the work is in progress, and as a rule the water test is applied before being covered up.

Sanitary Accommodation.

Twenty-nine Privies were abolished in favour of Water Closets, and eight additional Water Closets were provided where the accommodation was considered insufficient.

Twelve middens and one ashpit were abolished, and substituted by four dry ashpits and 19 bins.

At the close of the year the estimated number of Water Closets, etc., were as follows :—

Water Closets	...	1312	Ashpits	...	318
Privies	...	207	Bins	...	795
Pail or Tub Closets...		10	Waste Water Closets		19

It will be noticed that the proportion of Water Closets becomes greater year by year. In 1905, ten years ago, there were 420 Water Closets and 422 Privies.

Housing.

The number of houses inspected under the " Inspection of District Regulations " was 66.

Of the 66 houses which were inspected, four were found satisfactory, 36 with minor defects under Section 15 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909; 20 of these remained undisposed of at the close of the year; 26 houses were found with defects under Public Health Acts, 10 of which remained undisposed of at the close of the year.

The most important of the alterations carried out during the year were those connected with property in Gaunt's Fold and Garden Street. The yards were macadamised, which has an important bearing on the surroundings; the houses were provided with proper keeping-places, and were provided with means of ventilation. The houses in Garden Street, which were back to back, have now been made into through houses.

Many nuisances are revealed as a result of this inspection, principally minor in character. In a few cases, where drastic alterations were necessary, the progress was somewhat delayed through the inability of the tenants to immediately obtain suitable houses.

Infectious Disease and Disinfection.

The cases of Infectious Disease notified are referred to in the report of the Medical Officer of Health, and I may simply add that disinfection was carried out in all cases. The practice in connection with these cases is to disinfect the rooms by spraying and fumigating with formalin, while for Scarlet Fever the bedding, etc., is removed for treatment to the steam disinfector at the Isolation Hospital.

It was hoped that by now we should be in a position to do all necessary disinfection of bedding, etc., ourselves, but unfortunately, owing to the War, our plant has not yet been completed.

Zymotic queries are conducted in connection with each case notified, the information as to sanitary circumstances and possibility of origin being conveyed to the Medical Officer of Health; all disinfection is carried out personally.

Factories and Workshops.

112 inspections have been made. Defective sanitary accommodation was found and remedied in two instances. As a result of the Zymotic queries mentioned under the preceeding heading it was found that homework was being distributed at a factory outside the district, but no list of outworkers had been furnished to this authority. On representation being made, however, the list of such outworkers was supplied.

12 smoke observations have been taken, and in one instance a caution was deemed necessary.

The following is the list of Workshops on the register.

Bakehouses ... 15	Hosiery ... 1
(4 underground)	Milliners ... 4
Bootmakers ... 5	Saddlers ... 2
Cabinet Makers 2	Tailor ... 1
Dressmakers ... 9	Tinners ... 2
Joiners ... 3	

Water Supply and Samples.

Six samples of water were taken and submitted for analysis; three were from the public supply and the remainder from private sources. In each case the analyst reported the water as suitable for drinking purposes.

During the year four houses, which were previously supplied from other sources, have been connected with the town's supply.

Slaughter-houses.

There are still 13 slaughter houses in the district, six of which are licensed and seven registered. One new license has been granted, while the occupation of premises which were previously licensed as a slaughter-house has been discontinued, and consequently the license has lapsed.

There is also a knacker's yard, which is rarely used, the subject of an annual license.

The Slaughter-houses generally are in good condition, but are not well situated, being, as the majority of these are, comparatively close to dwellings, it is essential that the occupiers should strictly observe the bye-laws with regard to cleanliness, the expeditious removal of offal, etc. Perhaps arrangements may now be made for this refuse to be dealt with at the Destructor.

In the early part of the year, during my inspections, I found a carcase of beef in preparation for sale, which was affected with generalised tuberculosis, and entirely unfit for human consumption. This was verified by the Veterinary Inspector and the whole carcase and organs were voluntarily surrendered, and ultimately destroyed.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

There are 36 Cowkeepers, 13 of whom are also milk sellers, in the district, and 5 purveyors of milk who are not cowkeepers. The mistats generally are fairly well kept, but in one or two cases occupiers had to be reminded of the half-yearly white-washing.

Although progress has been made towards the general improvement in the housing condition of dairy cows, there are still some cowsheds in use which are structurally unsuitable. I have no doubt further improvements would have been carried out during the year, but for the war. The cowshed to which I referred in my last annual report as being at that time in the course of re-construction, has now been completed, but operations have not yet commenced in connection with the one that was to be undertaken in the Spring of the year under review, although plans of the proposed alterations have been submitted.

The whole of the dairy cows in the district have been examined by the Veterinary Inspector, whose report is appended.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, etc.

Only 2 come under this heading, viz.: 1 Knacker's Yard and 1 Soap Works. Periodical visits have been paid, and both places are free from complaint.

Refuse Removal and Disposal.

As regards the disposal of refuse, the year 1914 has been an eventful one. The insanitary refuse tips, which have hitherto been a subject of complaint by individuals, and a source of anxiety to the Committee, Council, and Officials, have now been superseded by an up-to-date destructor which is quoted to be capable of disposing of fourteen tons of dry refuse per working day of ten hours.

The incineration of refuse at the destructor was commenced on October 19th, and from that date to December 31st 613 loads, or approximately 481 tons, were dealt with, so that the average amount of refuse disposed of per full working day of nine hours was 10.6 loads, or 8.3 tons approximately.

According to the above figures the destructor is well above its work, and capable of meeting the growing demands for some time, apart from the provision which has been made for installing a third cell when occasion arises.

The removal of refuse has been let by contract as in previous years, one contractor having had the whole district.

It cannot be said, however, that the work was carried out as efficiently as is expected, especially during the latter part of the year. Now that we have facilities for disposal it is essential that full advantage should be taken of such by having the refuse removed from the neighbourhood of dwellings as frequently as possible. It is not desirable to allow refuse to remain any length of time in the vicinity of the house even in well constructed receptacles, but tenants themselves make matters much worse by depositing liquid filth, tea leaves, and other decomposing matters. This misuse of ashpits, and the depositing of offensive matters

down street gullies or in public or private roads or yards has led the Sanitary Committee to give instructions for drastic steps to be taken against persisting offenders.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

LUTHER GRIMSHAW,

Sanitary Inspector.



VETERINARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Since the commencement of July 1st I have been completing my examination of the Farms, Cow Houses, and Cows under the control of the Horsforth District Council.

I have inspected and examined the Milk Cows (exclusive of calves and young stock) on 27 farms. I can say that during the present year every farm in Horsforth has been inspected and examined, and I would the results are very satisfactory. Out of some considerable number of over 400 cows only 3 suspicious cases of Tuberculosis were discovered, and after carefully testing the suspicious animals with "Tuberculin" only one was found diseased, and arrangements have been made to dispose of the animal. This is an extraordinary record, one diseased cow over 400, and not one emaciated cow.

I notice on a great many farms structural alterations have been completed, and the conditions and surroundings for the animals greatly improved. Their air and ventilation, with plenty of sunlight, with a regular cleansing of floors by "swilling" and brushing, being absolutely necessary for the well-being of the animals and the sanitary condition of the milk supply. There are still some of the old farms small, low Cow-houses which require alterations, and no doubt in the course of time this may be done.

I am agreeably surprised by the result of the inspection of every farm in the district under the Council, and I am able to say without challenge that Horsforth will favourably compare with any town or district under the Council in Yorkshire for the health at the present time of the dairy animals and the purity of its milk supply.

I have been acquainted with my inspection and examinations by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Grimshaw, who has rendered me every assistance. From the present healthy and satisfactory condition of the dairy animals in your district I feel fully justified in anticipating continued success and prosperity.

Yours truly,

FRANK SOMERS,
Veterinary Inspector for Horsforth.

